

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 IO-14 OMB-01 CU-04 ACDA-19 SAJ-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AF-10 NIC-01

DRC-01 /164 W

----- 035233

R 051443Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3660

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, US, XF

SUBJECT: USA INSTITUTE OFFICIAL ON ME

1. FOLLOWING REMARKS ON ME -- BY USA INSTITUTE DEPUTY DIRECTOR ZHURKIN SPEAKING TO DELEGATION FROM THE AMERICAN COUNCIL OF YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS NOVEMBER 5 -- ARE OF INTEREST AS AN EXAMPLE OF HOW WELL-INFORMED SOVIETS ARE PLAYING THE ME SITUATION TO GROUPS SUCH AS THESE.

2. ASKED ABOUT THE POSSIBLE THREAT OF SOVIET TROOP MOVEMENTS AND ITS EFFECT ON DETENTE, ZHURKIN DENIED THAT THERE HAD BEEN EITHER MOVEMENT OR A THREAT OF MOVEMENT OF SOVIET TROOPS INTO THE MIDDLE EAST. HE SAID THAT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN FOOLISH FOR THE SOVIET UNION TO INTRODUCE TROOPS INTO THE AREA, FOR IN SUCH A HEATED ATMOSPHERE THIS MIGHT HAVE TOUCHED OFF A WORLD WAR. THE SOVIET UNION WAS NOT FOOLISH ENOUGH TO BELIEVE THAT IT COULD OCCUPY ISRAEL OR HELP THE ARAB STATES TO OCCUPY ISRAEL.

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3. HE ATTRIBUTED THE US ALERT TO AN UNWILLINGNESS ON THE PART OF THE UNITED STATES TO LOOK AT THE SITUATION IN A SOPHISTICATED WAY. HE STATED THAT THE ALERT WAS "DONE CLUMSILY." IF IT WERE DONE AS A THREAT TO THE SOVIET UNION, IT WAS NOT A CREDIBLE THREAT; AS FAR AS THE ARABS WERE CONCERNED, IT WAS SUPERFLUOUS BECAUSE "THEY ARE FRIGHTENED ENOUGH". FROM THE SAME STANDPOINT, THE ALLEGED SOVIET THREAT WOULD HAVE BEEN USELESS AS AN ATTEMPT TO FRIGHTEN ISRAEL BECAUSE IT, TOO, WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN CREDIBLE.

4. REGARDING DETENTE, ZHURKIN COMMENTED THAT IF THE TWO COUNTRIES DID NOT HAVE A SITUATION OF DETENTE, THE MIDDLE EAST CRISIS, WHICH IS MORE DANGEROUS THAN THE SIX-DAY WAR, WOULD BE EVEN MORE SERIOUS THAN IT IS. NEVERTHELESS, DETENTE SURVIVED AND ALLOWED SUCH "UNIQUE" DEVELOPMENTS AS THE KISSINGER TRIP, THE JOINT US-SOVIET RESOLUTIONS ON THE MIDDLE EAST IN THE UN AND THE COMPROMISE ON THE COMPOSITION OF UN FORCES. THIS, HE SAID, SHOWS THAT DETENTE IS NECESSARY. THERE MAY BE FUTURE FLARE-UPS AROUND THE WORLD AND THE EXISTENCE OF A DETENTE ATMOSPHERE WORKS IN FAVOR OF DIMINISHING TENSIONS AS SUCH SITUATIONS OCCUR.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** WAR, TROOP DEPLOYMENT, SPEECHES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 NOV 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973MOSCOW13844  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** garlanwa  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 28 SEP 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <28-Sep-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <05-Dec-2001 by garlanwa>  
**Review Markings:**

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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** USA INSTITUTE OFFICIAL ON ME  
**TAGS:** PFOR, UR, US, XF, USA INSTITUTE  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005